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COMMUNITY OF FORT RESOLUTION, DRAFT  
TOURISM DEVELOPMENT SURVEY

Director: Tourism

29-3  
Statistics/Surveys

FAXED Copy

Community of Ft. Resolution  
(DRAFT)  
REPORT

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT SURVEY

15 JULY 1991

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TOURISM DEVELOPMENT SURVEY  
15 JULY 1991

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SAMPLE SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

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15 JULY 1991

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## INTRODUCTION

The following report is based on information compiled from the survey questions as developed by the Fort Resolution Tourism Advisory Committee. There were three persons involved in gathering the information in response to the five questions on the survey report form. The information was accessed by means of personal interviews with Fort Resolution residents. Although, a number of persons requested to answer the survey questions on their own, which we later collected from them, and in some cases added comments from discussion with the persons.

The interviewers initially identified 146 households in the community. These households were divided amongst the three interviewers, with one person identified as the 'Chipewyan' interpreter. This 'Chipewyan' interpreter was assigned households where Chipewyan is the predominant language spoken. Each interviewer was assigned approximately 47 households. Over the past six weeks the interviews have taken place. The results of the interviews are based on 118 completed survey questionnaires. The remaining 28 households were not included for various reasons such as, 5 households not wanting to participate in the survey, 9 were not in town (either moved or on the land/holidays), and the remaining households being contacted on numerous occasions but being unable to spend the time for an interview or not completing the interview, they requested to do the survey questions on their own, and lastly just not being able to contact the households after a number of attempts.

It is of our opinion based on results, 93% - Mission Island, 85% Little

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Buffalo River, 74% 'Other Areas' identified, in favour of tourism/recreational development in the Fort Resolution area with positive aspects of the industry boosting the community's economy. However, there is concern for the community to have input as well as control over the areas where tourism/recreational development may happen. The people are concerned over the use of lands and natural resources being taken from them which they feel is theirs to have freedom of continued use and protect from misuse and abuse.

'Togetherness', community as a whole to pursue any ventures in tourism/recreational development. This view creates community spirit where everyone will benefit and not just a select few who may not consider the community as a whole and how the community will be affected by their tourism/recreational business,

The report is broken down in the 5 questions and comments section of the Tourism Development Survey. We tried to include a variety of comments that indicates what the community residents are thinking and therefore did not record every comment to avoid repetition. The completed questionnaires are available for reference, Question #5 we were unable to calculate the responses on a percentile basis as some questionnaires included numerous comments to the question whether positive or negative or offering no comment!

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TOURISM DEVELOPMENT SURVEY

QUESTION #1: "Do you think the Mission Island site should be developed for recreational and tourism purposes? Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_"

RESULTS: 110 responded Yes = 93.22%  
          0% responded No = 6.78%

Of the 110 who responded with Yes the following in order of highest indication of how to develop Mission Island are as:

- Picnic Area - with toilet facilities cooking fireplaces/grills, tables, playground area, fresh water.  
63 responses
- Road Improvement/Expansion - included a road on the perimeter of the Island, speed bumps in the picnic/camping areas. build wider/bigger bridge.  
60 responses
- Campground - with toilet facilities, showers, fresh water, sewer dump Station for motorhomes/trailers, cooking areas with fireplaces/grills, individual campsites not the group type site.  
47 responses
- Restore 'Old House' /Cross - included such comments as the 'Old House' being renovated to house a museum - giving the history of the settlement, having plaques with the history of the 'Old House', cross and certain points of Interest.  
25 responses
- Dock/Pier/Boat Launch - an area identified for the use of boaters, as well as swimmers.  
24 responses
- Hiking Trails - included also Bicycle, and Ski trails.
- Points of Interest - these to be identified with plaques/signs and a short write up.
- Beach Area
- playground

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- Cabins for Rent
- Boat Rentals
- Walking Tours
- Sport Fishing
- Develop but not turn it to commercialized area.

There was concern from some of the respondents not to let the area be ruined and indicated that the area should be monitored/supervised such that the island with its flora and fauna will be protected,

Of the 8 NO responses the following are 2 comments from their comments. ,

- "The island should only be used by the residents of Fort Resolution. "
- "No one will use it (Mission Island) for tourism. "

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## TOURISM DEVELOPMENT SURVEY

QUESTION #Z: "Do you think the Little Buffalo River area should be developed for recreational and tourism purposes? Yes , No"

RESULTS: 100 responded Yes = 84.75%  
18 responded No = 15.25%

Of the 100 who responded with Yes, the following in order of highest indication of how to develop Little Buffalo River area are as:

- Picnic Area - with toilet facilities, cooking fireplaces/grills, tables fresh water, individual as well as group sites.  
45 responses
- Campground - with toilet/shower facilities, fresh water, fireplaces/grills, free charge, with travelers/campers being monitored.  
44 responses
- Tourist Information Booth - included comments to include a concession, convenience/craft shop, with guide to history of area.  
27 responses
- Boat Launch
- Boat Rentals
- Guided Tours
- Boat Tours
- Sport Fishing/Outfitter Business
- Cabin Rentals (build for the purpose)
- Hiking Trails
- Expand Parking Areas (present)
- Create Road to Rapids

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- Historical Sites Identified - restore I. Sanderson's House
- Playground Area

Development of the Little Buffalo River area was contained to the area at the bridge not the existing Little Buffalo River Settlement. It was indicated in discussions with the respondents that there should be Fish Harvest Quotas for protection from over-use of the river as well as the travelers be monitored with seasonal camping(only) use, to allow for the Fort Resolution residents to continue with their 'traditional' use of the area.

Of the 18 who responded with No the following is a comment reflective of their opinion:

- "Residents of Little Buffalo River Settlement should be consulted about any tourism development of the area as they are the ones who will be affected."

Also, one member of the community felt that no development be done in the Little Buffalo River area as it will disturb the local peoples use of the area.

- "The Denigoo Wildlife Resource Committee, should be involved in any aspect of persons who are in the area. The area should be protected for the local residents use - The village should be protected from any influx of tourists. No tourist business to be conducted from the Little Buffalo River area."

"It is important to the local residents that their natural rhythm of the fishing/hunting cycle not be disturbed. The people will be standing up for their rights so that the village and area (Little Buffalo River) is not taken over for tourism - that can be done somewhere without disruption to the peoples way of life."

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### TOURISM DEVELOPMENT SURVEY

QUESTION #3: "Can you identify any other areas that might be developed for similar purposes?"

RESULTS: 87 responded with 'other areas'  73.73%  
31 responded No  26.27%

Of the residents who indicated 'other areas' listed are the areas in order of highest indication, they are as follows:

- Paulette Creek - "Heavy use already" (23)
- Slave River Delta (18)
- Across/Portage Area (17)
- Nagel Channel - "Road needs improvement", boat launch (13)
- Landing - boat launch (11)
- Present Camp/Picnic Area (across from station site on highway) - clean-up, have beach area with dock/wharf (7)
- Wharf/Beach Area in Town
- Paulette Bay (west of Paulette Creek - Float Plane Base)
- Cheeze Creek - clean-up/repair picnic area
- Dawson Landing - improve road
- Big Slough (4 miles on highway)
- Slave River and Talston Areas (control to prevent over-use)
- Jack Knox Island - restore Jack's House, hiking trails, guided tours to island
- Gravel Ridge
- Spruce Point

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Two Mile Slough - for canoeing

Road to Slave River

- Slave River Tours

Lake Tours

Delta Tours

Round Island Day Camp (fish fry)

- Historical Sites Identified and Developed

- Build Wharf as it was originally

Other Comments:

- "Leave some land for 'Our' recreational use!"

"tie, leave nature well enough alone!"

"See how Mission Island and Little Buffalo River areas work out!"

- Use of areas should be monitored

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## TOURISM DEVELOPMENT SURVEY

QUESTION #4: "Do you think the community currently has the facilities to handle an increase in tourism and recreational activities?"

RESULTS: 13 responded Yes = 11.02%  
105 responded No = 88.98%

For those that responded with no they also offered comments on what they felt Fort Resolution is lacking. The comments are indicated in order of highest number of responses they are as follows:

- Craft Shop (36)
- Hotel/Motel - need accommodation expansion (33)
- Food Service/Restaurant(31)
- Tourist Information Centre with Souvenirs (25)
- Guided Boat Tours
- Develop Special Events/Sports - on annual basis. Pave the arena rink area to accommodate summer sports/events such as: roller skating  
ball hockey  
dances
- events/sports: water skiing  
hockey tournament  
ball tournaments - {reprove ball diamond  
Deninoo Days  
swimming - build a pool
- Services directly related to visitors/tourists: sewer dump station  
boat launch  
diesel fuel/propane filling  
Mail Box 24 hours  
fresh water fill station  
boat rental s/guides  
campgrounds geared for southern users!
- Picnic/beach Rest Area in town
- Airline Company
- Bar/Lounge
- Restaurant serving 'northern foods'

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- Gas Bar - 24 hours
- Restore all the old "mission" machinery that are laying to ruins around the community and put it in a central place in the community for display and history of the community.

It was generally indicated by the respondents the Fort Resolution did not have adequate facilities to handle an increase in tourism/recreational activities. Some of the following comments indicate that the community has very little in ways of offering anything other than just the basics to visitors.

- "Present facilities inadequate without improvements we have nothing to offer."
- "Need to upgrade existing facilities and offer more."
- "Community should be made (kept?) more attractive."
- "Very little!"
- "Need more!"
- "Not organized"

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## TOURISM DEVELOPMENT SURVEY

QUESTION #5: "What kind of impact do you think tourism and recreational development will have on the community?"

RESULTS: The following are the collective comments given with the comments most repeatedly given being first.

- Create Jobs
- Economic Gain in Monies coming into the community
- Crafts Development - Handicraft Shop
- New Private Business Opportunities
- Community becoming a pleasant tourist attraction - Community Pride!
- Positive!
- Use it (tourism) to our advantage!
- More Leisure areas to use!
- More tourists will visit the community!
- Would the development (tourism) ruin the environment?
- Would there be protection measures taken for flora/fawna?
- Nothing more than there has been in the past!
- Do an assessment and find out!
- No comment!

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## TOURISM DEVELOPMENT SURVEY

The following are some select comments that were given concerning any aspect of tourism development in the Fort Resolution area.

"Be careful the influx of tourism is a benefit to the whole community and not a select few who may not give any regard to the effects on the community as a whole."

- "Any development (tourism or likewise) should be done in consultation with the community and the community has to have input into the maintenance and supervision of what can or cannot happen." "Community to have ultimate control of their resources."
- "Any indirect services that are needed to support tourism should be an equal opportunity situation and not controlled by any one group/organization within the community."

"Tourism in the Fort Resolution area could be a viable venture, providing

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- "Bigger and better motel/hotel, restaurant to be built overlooking waterfront, To offer travelers accommodations and food services as this may keep them in the community longer than a quick drive in and out. The community would also be in a better position to promote recreational events and have facilities for visiting teams/groups, "
- " Relocate power plant and water treatment plant and have that area reserved for recreational and hotel/motel construction on the waterfront, "
- "There is potential for tourism, the fact that there is no organized network here in Fort Resolution, Should establish a charter service for use for local people and tourists for sightseeing of the area."
- "Tourism if handled right should benefit the community of Fort Resolution."
- "If there are parks close to the community it would be an excellent recreational area for visitors coming to Fort Resolution for planned events ie: ball tournaments and games "

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CONCLUSION

From the results of the Tourism Development Survey questionnaire it is apparent that majority of Fort Resolution residents view tourism/recreational development of Mission Island and Little Buffalo River areas as positive ventures for the community to pursue. The responses at 93% and 85% respectively for the two areas confirm our findings along with the fact that 74% identified 'other areas' for tourism/recreational development and 89% indicating the community does not at present have the facilities to handle an increase in tourism/recreational activities and indicated numerous goods/services we could either improve on or develop to offer visitors. It was felt by the residents than an increase in special events as well as community participation in areas of clean-up of the community we would have something that would make Fort Resolution memorable for our visitors.

It is indicated that the residents want the community as a whole to be active in pursuing tourism/recreational development. This view promotes 'togetherness and creates a lively community spirit. Another important factor in pursuing any tourism/recreational development is the preservation of our land, culture and tradition. This preservation is in context of control of the land in protecting it from misuse and abuse. Also, to allow the residents to continue in their use of the land in hunting, trapping and fishing, that this will not be taken away or limited to what they (residents) have been using to the present, respect their use,

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Overall the idea of promoting tourism/recreational development was viewed as a gain in economic ways, job creation and generating more dollars coming into the community. We have to have something here to offer visitors and it can happen if approached in a methodical manner.

In concluding the general feeling received from the community residents is they want to participate in all phases of tourism/recreational development. The residents felt that what they had to say counted in what was to happen with any tourism/recreational development.

### TOURISM DEVELOPMENT SURVEY

The following questionnaire was developed to assist the committee in planning for tourism initiatives in the Fort Resolution area. Two potential projects have already been identified. The development of Mission Island and the Little Buffalo River area are currently under discussion.

These two projects are addressed in the survey. In addition, your input into the identification of other opportunities relating to tourism, is sought.

QUESTIONNAIRE:

DATE: JUNE '91

INTERVIEWER: FREDA ELIEF

HOUSEHOLD: \_\_\_\_\_

PERSON INTERVIEWED: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Do you think the Mission Island site should be developed for recreational and tourism purposes? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, How?

2. Do you think the Little Buffalo River area should be developed for recreational and tourism purposes? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, How?

3. Can you identify any other areas that might be developed for

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4. Do you think the community currently has the facilities to handle an increase in tourism and recreational activities?

5. What kind of impact do you think tourism and recreational development will have on the community?

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION MAY HELP YOU WHEN YOU CONSIDER THE OPTION OF ESTABLISHING A TERRITORIAL PARK.

~~What are territorial parks?~~

Territorial Parks are established by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism, GNWT, for the benefit of local residents and to encourage tourism.

~~How are territorial parks established?~~

Territorial parks are established under the direction of the Territorial Parks Act. They are only established with community approval.

~~Who plans and manages a territorial park?~~

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism does in partnership with the local community. The Dept. provides the money.

~~How is a local community involved?~~

A local Parks and Tourism Committee could actively participate in park planning and management.

~~What are the rules and regulations that must be followed in territorial parks?~~

The Parks and Tourism Committee would determine many of the regulations affecting park use. Under the Parks Act, aboriginal people have the right to continue hunting and using other resources.

~~What are the direct benefits of a park?~~

- Territorial parks can provide direct employment for a few local residents.
- Preference is given to local companies for construction and maintenance contracts.
- Community residents have a pleasant place to go for picnics, historic sites can be protected and local culture can be explained and promoted.

~~What are the indirect benefits of a park?~~

Tourists will be more attracted to the community. Tourists spend money for groceries, meals, arts and crafts and gas. More important, they can be encouraged to purchase outfitted trips with local guides (note: an outfitters license is required). A community should prepare for these opportunities.

~~What are the possible problems with parks?~~

Tourists will come whether there is a park or not. However, a park should encourage tourism. A park would direct tourists to a specific area that would be maintained by the government. If you do not want planned tourism in your community then you may not want a park nearby.